



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/049,162
Applicant : HIRASHIMA et al.
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Examiner : Mickey Yu, SPE
Shian Luong

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Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of January 29, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

(1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

(2) Remarks/arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.